Evening Telegraph

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1866.

The Centenary of American Methodism. Just one hundred years ago the present month, Philip Embury, the founder of American Methodism, preached his first sermon in this country. It was delivered in his own hired house, in what is now known as "City Hall Place," New York, and in the presence of a congregation consisting of four persons. Such was the humble beginning in the United States of a denomination that has to-day twenty thousand churches, thirty thousand preachers, and two millions of communicants. It is the celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of this event that has thrown the Methodist denomination in this city and throughout the country into a state of unusual activity and excitement, and has developed an enthusiasm in all its assemblages, from the local prayer and class-meeting to the great congregation, hitherto unparalleled in the history of religious bodies.

In 1739 Wesley and his coadjutors first set in motion throughout Great Britain this system, which is now world-wide in its name and fame. One hundred years subsequently that event was duly celebrated on both sides of the Atlantic. The present jubilee, however, as we have said, refers to the origin of Methodism in America. In 1766, Philip Embury, a local preacher from Ireland, began to preach, and formed a "class" in New York; and about the same time, another preacher, named Strawbridge, founded societies in Maryland. In October, 1771, two missionaries from the English Wesleyan body, Messrs. Boardman and Pillmore, landed in this city, and entered on the work of preaching wherever an open door was found. In 1773, a Conference was held in Philadelphia, consisting of ten preachers, the number of church members then being less than twelve hundred.

After the Revolution, which greatly retarded their operations, the work began to spread with astonishing rapidity, and converts were multiplied on every hand. The "Methodist Episcopal Church" was formally organized in 1784, with Bishops Coke and Asbury at the head; and from that period to the present, the General Conference has met every four years, giving law and order to the vast ecclesiastical machinery which, in its network of instrumentalities, has covered the land, and grown up with the development of the new nation to its present colossal propor-

Glancing over the last census, the astonishing fact appears that Methodism to-day, in its chief and minor branches, embracing nearly thirty thousand local and regular ministers, its two millions of communicants, its twenty thousand churches, valued at \$33,000,000, with accommodations for over six millions of worshippers, and including one-fifth of the entire population of the country, stands preeminently forward as the leading religious body in this nation. In addition to its ministerial force, we find about one million-and ahalf children numbered in its fourteen thousand Sabbath Schools, of whom it is reported about twenty thousand are converted annually, and received into communion with the Church.

The Methodist Discipline is a marvel of sagacious counsel and contrivance for the government of this immense family. The "Book Concerns," with their branches, the Advocates, periodicals, and publishing interests of the denomination, surpass anything of the kind in the world. We are nearly bewildered by the array of figures and facts which their annual statistics set before us, and which almost vindicate the truth of the statement that "Methodism is the grandest achievement of the nineteenth century."

All, or nearly all, the other existing denominations of Christians had an existencesome of them one hundred and some one hundred and fifty years-before Methodism in America wasborn, yet she has far outstripped every competitor in the work of evangelization. Struggling with poverty, without pomp or patronage, her self-sacrificing itinerants have traversed the continent, fording its rivers, climbing its mountains, threading its valleys, and ever telling the glad story of the Cross. Her laurels have been richly earned, and are meekly worn.

We cannot in this article even hint at half the prominent objects which a consideration of the subject of American Methodism brings to view. No feature of this wonderful system is more hopeful for a brilliant and prosperous future than its educational institutions. Of colleges and universities Methodism now numbers twenty-three, with about five thousand students. Added to this, they have eighty-four seminaries of respectable grade, embracing about six hundred instructors and from eighteen to twenty thousand pupils.

About ten millions are annually raised and expended by this "household of faith" in support of the ministry, the Church, and benevolent institutions, of which the American Bible Society receives its due proportion.

It was wisely arranged that while the great heart of Methodism should be filled and theilled with congratulations and devout emotions for the results, under God, of the first bundred years of its toil, the people should be permitted to "bring an offering," a great, grand thank-offering, and lay it on

ing future. At first it was suggested that a million of dollars might be raised; then som argued for two, others flor millions, and it is now settled and conceded that this sum will be the minimum. It is indeed probable, at the rate some churches and individuals are going, that the aggregate will be nearer ten than five millions.

Various objects have been designated as the beneficiaries of this great movement. To Ireland, the mother-country, a large sum will be returned, to be used there in the cause of education and missions. A fund will be created for educational purposes in this country. A Mission House will be erected in New York, to stand as a monument, a Methodist Westminster Abbey, and tell the "generations following" the story of their fathers' love and liberality. Colleges will receive liberal endowment, and new institutions will spring up in every central and needed locality as the result of this year's celebration.

The chief object before the churches of this city, and towards which most of their offerings will naturally flow, is the long and widely renowned Dickinson College, located in the beautiful borough of Carlisle, Pa, Many beyond the immediate pale of the denomination will doubtless be glad to share in the effort to liberally endow this well-known institution, and thus give a new impulse to its noble work.

Methodism has furnished this and other lands many notable names in Church and State. Her bishops are men of rare administrative talent. Her preachers are earnest, e'oquent, and successful. Her system is one of wise adaptation and of wonderful vigor; and from the standpoint of the present, who can look forward another century without the conviction and hope that she is destined to play a most important part, not only in the elevation, instruction, and Christianization of the multiplying millions who shall inhabit our own country, but also in the evangelization of the whole world?

Secretary and Clerk of the Legislature. WE are glad to see so general a feeling among the Republican party in favor of the re-election of A. W. Benedict, Esq., as Clerk of the House, and G. W. Hammersley, Esq., as Secretary of the Senate of the State. Both these gentlemen have been acting for months as Secretaries of the State Central Committee, and in that position, at once the most thankless and most arduous of the campaign, have acquitted themselves with fidelity and success. The importance of having a well-constituted Committee cannot be overestimated. Upon it depends the management of the campaign. All the forces of the party must be directed, controlled, and turned into the proper and most effective channel. Years of experience, as well as an enthusiasm in the cause, have well qualified Messrs. Benedict and Hammersley for the task; and tney have so far exerted their utmost as to receive the public mention of that most efficient of Chairmen, Colonel Frank Jordan.

They have been for the past few years in the positions of Clerk and Secretary to our Legislature, and by ability and a familiarity with the routine of parliamentary duties, have well merited the compliment of a reelection. There seems to be not the slightest doubt but that they will once more fill their old posts, as their removal would retard the business of the session, and lose the State two faithful servants and the Legislature two of the most efficient officers which have ever worked in its halls.

BRITISH INTELLIGENCE.—The latest file of the London Times received here contains a lengthy editorial on the result of the elections in October, and states that the principal objection, on the part of the South, is because if adopted, one of its provisions "disqualifies from citizenship every one who served in the Rebellion, from General Lee to the youngest drummer boy." This is a fair specimen of the intelligence of Great Britain in American affairs. The leading journal of the kingdom does not understand the simplest provisions of the great question of our land-Every child in America knows that the Constitutional amendment does not disqualify any of the Rebels, except such as entered the Rebellion after having taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States. As it is not customary for us to administer such an oath to such persons as are suited for drummer boys, nor yet to private citizens, it will be seen that only such United States officers as entered the Confederacy and became perjurers as well as traitors are excluded.

THE BATEMAN CONCERTS.

The last of the series of the Bateman Concorts was given last evening at Musical Fund Hall, in the presence of a large audience. The great appreciation in which the performers ware held was manifested in the most decided manner, and all present evidently regretted that this was the last opportunity to hear this fine company-a better than which has, perhaps, never appeared in Philadelphia in a series of

miscellaneous concerts. It may be proper here to s'ate that extra credit is to be given to each of the vocal performers, because they were distinguishing themselves at a concert, and not at an opera. It is much more difficult to sing well at a miscel'aneous concert than opera; that is, a single voice cannot present itself with the same claim to popular favor, because it has not got the same assistance. We mean by that, that in an opera the singer has certain indistensable concomitant surroundings, such as fine scenery, his assigned part in the plot of the play, novel and appropriate stage effects, a good orchestra accompaniment, and many other advantages which we could name. Each and att or these tend to assist the singer, and the consequence is, the voice appears to much greater advantage. Of course, if the singer is not perfect and exact in musical time and other essentialities, he or she could not sing in an opera at all, although the same party might sing a ballad, or even an operatic aria, in a concert room quite acceptably, for the reason that, with a piano accompaniment, a defect as to time can be screened, whilst, with an their altars for consecrated use in the open- orchestra, it cannot, without it might be confined

within a single bar. We therelore repeat what we have above stated as to the relative merits of concert

inging and the opera Madame Farepa has been a great favorite since the evening of her debut here. Last night she almost excelled heiself, and received a perfect ova-

tion of applause. She commenced with the cavatina from Semiramide, ontitled "Bell Razzio," and sang it in magnificent style. On an encore she gave an English song, "Happy Thoughts come o'er me Stealing," in a clear, rich voice, and much musical expression. Her lower notes are fully equal to other parts of her register, and this is the more surprising because of being a prima soprano of great and lefty range, and having mmense powers of duration upon a sostenuto, or a holding, protracted passage. The atdience were greatly pleased also with the song she sang in the second part, "By-and-by Pli Come Again" (significant and appropriate words!), and with the encore, "Five O'clock in the Morning," two pieces of an extraordinary grade of composi ion, but goriously

The principal gem of the evening performancelwas the duett with Signor Brignoll, "Per Valli," It was much better than upon previous occasions, Brignoli never singing better. He was also equally good in his solo "La mia Letizia," from Lombardi, a piece evidently a tavorite of his own.

Signor Fortuna and Signor Forranti were both excellent, especially the latter. No better bassobuffo need be required than him. He accents his words, and applies his very expressive and humorous gesticulations, with proper and becoming effect, without descending to low and unbecoming buf-

Mr. Mil's performed his fantasia, "Midsummer Night's Dream," with some new features, and his digitals were brought into full power of execution in the brist-ant cadences and succession of rapid trills marking the finale of the piece. The "Caprice Fantasuque" of Carl Rosa on the violin was a fine feature of the performance, and displayed to advantage the talent of this young and justly popular

This excellent troupe have, therefore, bade us adicu, and ere the time this paper is in the hands of the reader, they are likely landed in New York, for which city they started this morning.

ITALIAN OPERA.

Verdi's masterpiece was given last evening at the Academy of Music, to a very large and fashionable audience, probably the finest of the season. We have never seen Ernani (generally heavy) presented in such an admirable style. Each artist vied with the other in the spirited and tasteful performance of their respective roles. Sennora Carmen Poch achieved a perfect success, and was most vociferously applauded throughout the execution of her arduous role. Mazzoleri was in excellent voice, and acted with good taste. Beiliei was really superb. and Antonucci was even better than usual. So complete was the success, that Ernani was universally voted the triumph of the season.

An extraordinary incident occurred last evening which we record with pleasure. When the curtain tell on the third act of the opera, the popular encore was perfectly deafening, and continued until the curtain was raised again, and a'most the entire act was repeated by the artists, amid the wildest enthusiasm.

On Monday evening, Faust, by Gounod.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

METHODIST CENTENARY.-A CARD METHODIST CENTENARY.—A CARD

—There are in this city a great many persons, not in actual communion, with the Methodist Episcopal Church, who are its carnest ir ends, and would be guad to have an o portunity of testifying their regard. The object of this card as to let such friendly persons know that the Methodist Episcopal Church is now celebrating its centenary by religious services, and gifts and ofter ings for the advancement of religion.

In this city the Methodist caurches are making a special and carnest effort by 'thank offerings' to endow Dickinson College, located at Carlisis Pennsylvania. We cannot doub thet many of the sons of Method's n, now in other branches o the hurch with a number of others who appreciate her mission, e-pecially to the masses, will be happy to send in an offering when they leave how it may be done.

To such we extend our greetings, and invite them to send contributions to Rev. S. W. THOMAS, No. 1013 ARCH St. or to any of the Methodist pastors. 19 27 6t

A CENTENARY JUBILEE MEETING of the members and irlend, of the Methodist Episcoral Church will be held at WEBTERY M. E. Cd. RCH TWENTIETH Street, below W. I.NUT. on TUESD. Y AFTERNOON, 30th in tant at 3 o'c.ock.
A general attendance is lovited.
W. J. PAXSON, for Committee.

FREE SERVICE AND A FREE GOSper preached To-morrow, and every Sabbata Evening, in the OREEN HILL PRESSY PERIAN CHURCH, GIRARD Avenue above Sixteenth Street The Pastor, Rev. F L. ROBBINS, will preach To-morrow evening at 7% o'clock, on tae "Temp: ation of Jesus." All seats free.

TRINITY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Sur day School Centenary Celebration at 2% o'clock, 7o morrow afteracon. Speakers, BISHOF SHIPSON, Rev. B. H. NADAL, D. D., and WILLIAM H. THAW, Esq. Exercises by the children.

PREACHING IN ZION M. E. CHURCH. BROWN Street, above Fourth, on Sabbath Morning next, 28th inst, at 10 o'c ock by Rev. J. P. HAMLER; at 3 o'clock, Rev R. H. DYSON; at 7% o'c ock, R. H. GIBBS. A collection will be taken during

WEST ARCH STREET PREBYTE-RIAN CHURCH corner of EIGHTEENTH and ARCH Street.—Preaching by Rev. E. H. NEVIN at 10½ A. M. Sermon at 7% P. M., on '1 rofanity.'' Strangers made welcome.

"CLINTON STREET CHURCH,"
TRNTH, below Spruce street (Rev. Dr. March)
will be open for Divine service on To-morrow (Sunday)
Evening, at 7h o'clock. Strangers are cordia ly invited TABRENAULE BAPTIST CHURCH,
CHESNUT Street, west of Fighteenth.—Services
To morrow morning at 10%, and in the evening at 7%
o'clock. Preaching by the pastor, Bev. A. G. PELIZ.
sunday School in the afternoon at 2% o'clock.

CHURCH OF THE NEW TESTA-went Eleventh and WOOD streets - Ser-vicel Sabbath Atternoon, 3% o'clock. Worship every Tuesday night, 7% o'clock, in the 1 ceture Room. All invited.

GERMANTOWN SECOND PRESBYTE-BIAN CHURCH, TULPEHOCKEN and GREEN Streets. Frenching To morrow Morning at 19% o'clock, and Evening at 7% o'clock, by Rev. HENRY E. DWIGHT.

REV. C. B. OAKLEY WILL PREACH in GREEN WILL HALL, S E corner SEVEN-TEENTH and FOPLAR Streets, To morrow Alternoon at 3% o'clock.

REV. W. W. NEWELL (UNITARIAN) will preach at LANG TROTH'S BALL Germantown, To-morrow Morning at 19% o'clock, and 7% Evening. NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH, EIGHTH

Street, above Master.—Sabbath Morning, 10% o'clock, preaching by Rev. Dr. COLE; also in the Evening at 7% o'clock. Public invited. SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

SEVENTII Street, be ow Arch.—The fastor Rev E. R. BEADLE, will preach To morrow at 185 A. M. and 75 P. M.) EBENEZER M. E. CHURCH.—CEN-tenary services on Sunday next, at 10 A. M. At 3.P. M Sunday School meeting. Singing by the children,

UNION M. E. CHURCH, OCTOBER 28 - Bev. James NFIL at 18% A. M. Rev. G. A. CARROW. D. D. at 7% P M. Seats all free. WESTMINSTER CHURCH, BROAD and FITZWATER Streets.—Preaching by Rev. J E. ANNAR, at 16% A. M. and 3% P. M. .

WANTED-A MALE TEACHER AS PRIN-Apply to the Committee, at Commissioners' Hall, west Philadelphia, on MONDAY, October 29 at 2% o'clock if M. Diploma and Certificate required.

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COVENANT LODGE, NO. 114, I. O. of O. F -The members are particularly requested to meet at the Hall, SIXTH and CRESSON Exceeds, on MONDAY MORNING next the 20th inst., at 9 o'clock, for the purpose of attending the nuneral of our late Brother, P. G. FRANCIS F. WOLGAMUTH.

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2. Sore Threat Dyspepsia, Diarrhoea, Dyseniery, Obsitiate Constipation, immorrhoides or Pies, Bilious, Flatu'ent, and Painters' Colic, and a'l affections of the Liver and Spieen.

3. Catairn, Cough, Influenzia, Asthma (when not caused by organic diseases of the heart). Bronchitis, Pleurisy. Pleurodynia, or Rheumatism of the Chest, Consumption in the early stages.

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4. References.—General A. J. Fleasonton No. 916 Spruce street; W. B. Smith. No. 102 Hanover street; George Dougiass, Fith street, above Chesnut; J. W. Bradiey, No. 56 N. Fourth street; Robert Work, No. 51 N. Third sireet: Colonel T. W. Sweeney, Walnut, below Lighth; George Evans, Arch sireet below Fith; Mr Pelouze, Third and Chesnut; Ed. McLane, late this city. A Pleasonton, St. Louis, Mo.; Jacob Vandegrit, Odessa, Del.; R. A. Semple, Mount Holly, N. J., with many others.

6. Physicians or students desiring to have instruction in the correct application of Electricity for the cure of diseases can apply at the Office.

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Frosted Beavers. English Whitneys. Velvet Beavers. Astrachans. Chinchillas

> White Cloths. Scarlet Clotha Middlesex Cloths.

Waterproof Cloths.

MEN'S WEAR. Silk Mixtures for Suita.

> Fine Black Cassimeres. Castor Beavers. Extra Heavy Overcoatings, Fancy Cassimeres, \$150. Harris Cassimeres. Biolley Cassimeres.

> > BOYS' WEAR.

All-Wool Cassimeres, \$1. Handsome Neat Styles, \$1.25. Very Heavy Dark Styles, \$1.25. Fine Light Weight and Colors, \$1.50. Cadet Grey, all shades. Boys' Overcoatings.

Fine Black Cloths.

J. C. STRAWBRIDGE & CO.

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BLANKETS.

1WO THOUSAND PAIRS.

All-Wool Blankets, \$5. 200 Pairs Large Heavy, \$6. 200 Extra Weight and Size, \$8. Large Fine Red Biarkets, \$10. Fine Huron Blankets, \$15. Extra Large Size and Heavy, \$20.

CRADLE BLANKETS. CRIB BLANKETS. GREY BLANKETS. BROWN BLANKETS.

COMFORTABLES.

WORSTED COVERLETS.

COLORED BED SPREADS. MARSEILLES COUNTERPANES.

HONEYCOMB QUILTS. ALLENDALE QUILTS.

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BARGAINS OPEN THIS DAY

1 case BALMORAL SKIRTS, black and grey, \$2. 2 cases very superior SKIRTS, at \$2 50. I case E oney comb BRIDAL QUILTS.) bale pard wide SHAKER FLANNELS, 62%c. Heavy 10d iwilled Full NELS, 40 cents. Good Scarlet FLANNELS, 31% cents.

SILKS! SILKS!

Heavy Black GROS GRAINS for \$2. 10 pieces POULT DE SOIE, all the new Shades, \$2. MOIRE ANTIQUE SILKS from auction, a great

CLOAKING CLOTHS.

LARGEST STOCK IN THE CLIY.

Elegant French CLOAKINGS, from late auctions. Handsome CLOTUS, medium prices. Single and double-wiath CLOTUS, from \$2 to 85.

BLANKETS.

CHAVE NOW OPEN SOME GREAT BARGAINS.

Fine BLANKETS, cheaper than at any time during Twenty-five cases all sizes and weights, from \$5 to \$29

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